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Washington, DC 20004-1206



February 13, 2004

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FEB 24 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Application No. 09/062,113  
Filed: April 17, 1998  
Title: Novel Proteins and Methods for Producing the Proteins  
Applicants: GOTO *et al.*  
Atty. Docket: 16991.012

Sir:

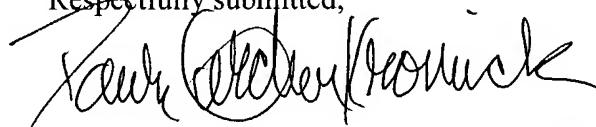
The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO):

1. an Applicants' Inquiry Concerning Suspension of Action by the Examiner Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.103 and MPEP 709; and
2. a return postcard.

Please stamp the attached postcard with the filing date of these documents and return it to our courier.

In the event that extensions of time beyond those petitioned for herewith are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter Deposit Account No. 50-2387 referencing matter number 16991.012. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



David R. Marsh (Reg. Attorney No. 41,408)

Dawn Gardner Krosnick (Reg. Attorney No. 44,118)

Enclosures

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Dawn Gardner Krosnick (Reg. Attorney No. 44,118)

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U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

GOTO *et al.*

Appln. No.: 09/062,113

Filed: April 17, 1998

For: Novel Proteins and Methods for  
Producing the Proteins

Art Unit: 1647

Examiner: D. Romeo

Atty. Docket: 16991.012

Confirmation No.: 2563

**Applicants' Inquiry Concerning Suspension of Action by  
the Examiner Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.103 and MPEP 709**

Commissioner for Patents  
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

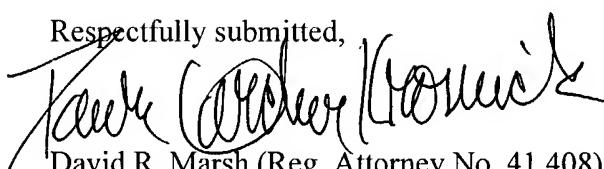
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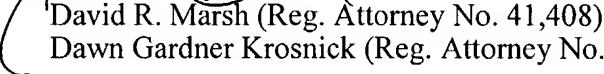
FEB 24 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to an official communication mailed August 12, 2003 regarding suspension of prosecution of the above-referenced application, Applicants respectfully request that a status update of this application be provided to the undersigned as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

  
David R. Marsh (Reg. Attorney No. 41,408)

  
Dawn Gardner Krosnick (Reg. Attorney No. 44,118)

Date: February 13, 2004

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